

This Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-76 (canceled)

Claim 77 (currently amended): A method of screening for early stage prostate cancer, the method comprising the step of assaying, in a patient prostate or blood sample, an expression product of a human endogenous MMTV-like subgroup 2 (HML-2) retrovirus, wherein an increased level of said expression product of at least 150% relative to a control sample level indicates that the patient should undergo further testing for the presence of prostate cancer, and wherein the HML-2 retrovirus is HERV-K(CH).

Claim 78 (previously presented): The method of claim 77 wherein the patient sample is a prostate sample.

Claim 79 (previously presented): The method of claim 77 wherein the expression product is an RNA.

Claim 80 (withdrawn): The method of claim 79 wherein the expression product is an RNA comprising a nucleotide sequence corresponding to the DNA sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:155.

Claim 81 (withdrawn): The method of claim 80 wherein the expression product is an RNA comprising a nucleotide sequence corresponding to the DNA sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:5.

Claim 82 (withdrawn): The method of claim 80 wherein the nucleotide sequence corresponding to the DNA sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:155 is at the 5' end of the RNA.

Claim 83 (previously presented): The method of claim 79 wherein the expression product is an RNA corresponding to the Gag or Pol domain of HERV-K(CH).

Claim 84 (currently amended): The method of claim 83 wherein the expression product is an RNA comprising a nucleotide sequence corresponding to a DNA sequence ~~selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:14-26, SEQ ID NO:40, and SEQ ID NO:41~~ of SEQ ID NO:26.

Claim 85 (previously presented): The method of claim 77 wherein the expression product is a polypeptide.

Claim 86 (previously presented): The method of claim 85 wherein the expression product is a polypeptide encoded by an RNA corresponding to the Gag or Pol domain of HERV-K(CH).

Claim 87 (currently amended): The method of claim 86 wherein the expression product is a polypeptide encoded by an RNA comprising a nucleotide sequence corresponding to a DNA sequence ~~selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:14-26, SEQ ID NO:40, and SEQ ID NO:41~~ of SEQ ID NO:26.

Claim 88-113 (canceled)